Amendments to the Claims:

A listing of the entire set of pending claims (including amendments to the claims, if any) is submitted herewith per 37 CFR 1.121. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A processor-based method for specifying measurement start times in a network Measurement Request Frame in a wireless network comprising one of a station and an access point, wherein at least one of the station and the access point is adapted to perform the steps comprising ~~the steps of~~:

formatting the Measurement Request Frame to have a Measurement Request Elements field comprising at least one Measurement Request Element, said at least one Measurement Request Element comprising at least one Measurement Request for a given type of network measurement; and

specifying an absolute Start Time in at least one of the Measurement Request Frame, the Measurement Request Element, and the Measurement Request, wherein the absolute Start Time is set to zero to indicate that the corresponding measurement is to be initiated after reception of the Measurement Request Frame.

2 - 6. (canceled)

7. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of setting a Measurement Mode field to a value that specifies how to interpret the absolute Start Time for starting measurement of the element.

8. (canceled)

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein said setting step further comprises the step of using a three bit encoding to represent a selected indicator.

10. (canceled)

11. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

including in the at least one Measurement Request Element a Measurement Mode field; and

setting said Measurement Mode field to a value that specifies how to interpret the absolute Start Time for starting measurement of the element.

12. (canceled)

13. (previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein said setting step further comprises using a three bit encoding to represent a selected indicator.

14. (canceled)

15. (previously presented) An apparatus that formats a Measurement Request Frame having an unambiguous measurement Start Time, comprising:

a measurement acquisition circuit that formats the Measurement Request Frame to have a Measurement Request Elements field that comprises at least one Measurement Request Element that comprises at least one Measurement Request for a given type of network measurement;

a TSF timer; and

a control processor coupled to said measurement acquisition circuit and said TSF timer and configured to set an absolute Start Time in at least one of the Measurement Request Frame, the Measurement Request Element, and the Measurement Request, wherein the absolute Start Time is set to zero to indicate that the corresponding measurement is to be initiated after reception of the Measurement Request Frame.

16 - 22. (canceled)

23. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said absolute Start Time is based on a time synchronization function (TSF) timer value.

24. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said absolute Start Time is based on a time synchronization function (TSF) timer value.